HIS VIEWS IN BEGARD TO B

which I have indulged, forgetting how many blessings God gives us and how many dangers surround without touching us.

After he became Prime Minister he conclided a political review addressed to a friend in these words: "My feeling of gratitude for the support God has given us rises into the conviction that He also krows how to turn our errors into our good. I feel this daily, and am humiliated and comforted."

One secret of Bismarck's power has always been his belief that he was raised up of God for a particular purpose. He gives expression to this belief in the following letter, written during the Franco-Prussian war: "If I were not a Christian I would not continue to serve the King another hour. Did I not hope God counted unon me I should certainly take no secount of royal masters. I should have enough to live upon and occupy a distinguished position. Why should I incessantly worry myself and labor in this world, exposing myself to embarrassments and annoyances and evil treatment, if I did not feel bound to do my duty on behalf of God? Did I not believe in the divine ordinance which has destined this German nation to become good and great I had never taken to the diplomatic trade; or, having done so, I should long since have given it up. I know not whence I should derive my sense of duty, if not from God. Orders and titles after death, and that is why I am a royalist; by nature I am disposed to be a republican. To my steadfast faith alone of absurdities throughout the past ten years. Deprive me of this faith, and you rob me of my fatherland. Were I not a staunch Christian, did I not stand on the miraculaus basis of religion, you would never have possessed a federal Chancellor in my person."

EXPRESSING HIS FAITH,

## THE NESTOR OF DIPLOMATS.

The Iron Chancellor's Useful Life of Eighty Summers.

AN ENTIRE NATION HONORING HIM.

an Empire From the Meautjanker to the Idoj of His People-His Life as a Statesman, Father and Christian.

The unusual preparations that are being made in many localities by German residents for the celebration of Bisp. Tok's birchday, which occurs April ist, testifies to the warm place the ex-Chancellor of Germany holds in the hearts of his people. Although nominally living in relirement, he still wields an immense influence in German affairs, and nothing is more familiar and exercises greater magnetic power and attraction upon those who have left their native country and made their homes on this side of the ocean thair anything in connection with the iron Chancellor." You mention the word "Bismarck" to a German and it will do wonders, like the "Sesame" of old, and in nine cases out of ten it will open to you at once the hearts of the numerous admirers of the man who united Germany.

many.

Here in Richmond special preparations have been made for a proper celebration of the great event. Some time ago the Germar-American Association appointed a committee of arrangements, consisting of Messrs. A. von N. Rosenegk, Carl Wippermann and Charles E. Loefler. The committee have worked hard to make the effair a grand success, and their labors are almost completed. Saenger Halle will be tastefully decorated for the plain, but appropriate and dignified, observance of the event, and at 8.30 P. M., on Monday, April 1st, the members of the various German-American organizations and other clitzens of Richmond will asemble in the big hall to participate in a concert, banquet and "Commers."

Mr. A. von N. Rosenegk, president of the German-American Association, will sat as master of ceremonies, and will make the address of welcome. Mr. Adolph Osterloh, the German consul in this city, will reply to the toast on "Bismarck as a Statesman, and What the Germans Owe to Him." Mr. William H. Zimmermann will speak on "The Part Taken by the Germans in Developing America." Mr. H. G. Miller, who is set down for the last official toast, will have for his subject "German Song and German Music." The Gesangverein Virginia will render several songs, among them one arranged for the occasion by Mr. Herman Schurig, and, besides, there will be recitations, comic songs, etc.

A UNIQUE POSTAL CARD. Here in Richmond special preparation

A UNIQUE POSTAL CARD.

A UNIQUE POSTAL CARD.

Some time ago the Deutsche Reichischule, a charitable organization in Berlin, established for the purpose of looking after the interests of orphans, issued a postal card, which has since been sold in large quantities to be used by patriotic admirers of Prince Bismarck as a transmitter of congratulations on that day. The card shows an artistic design arranged by Professor E. Deepler, in Berlin, a celebrated painter. It has in the upper right corner a portrait of Bismarck in the uniform of the cuirassiers, and alongside of it may be seen the imperial crown. Bismarck is approached from the left by a German maiden, who is about to present him with a wreath of laurels, and she is accompanied by a German youth waving the national colors. The body of the card is to give the name and address of the sender, who joins in the congratulations of all Germany to the Chancellor's eightleth birthday.

The committee of arrangements here have purchased 500 of these postal cards, which have nearly all been taken up by German-American residents of Richmond and mailed to Prince Bismarck. The

which have hearly all beet taken up by German-American residents of Richmond and mailed to Prince Bismarck. The charitable organization that issued these cards intends to use part of the proceeds of the sale for the establishing of a new orphan asylum in Bertin. The same organization has heretofore been the means of bringing into existence three each institutions.

cards intends to use part of the proceeds of the sale for the establishing of a new orphan asylum in Berlin. The same organization has heretofore been the means of bringing into existence three such institutions.

Mr. Carl Wippermann, of this city, is the recibient of a splendid photograph of the aged Chancellor that has just been taken, and is intended as a memorial to the German nation, representing the features of the Hillstrious man in his eightleth year. Those who are Hying near the Frince are unanimous in their opinion that this picture is the most perfect reproduction of his peculiar, characteristic vigor, loyalty and suavity.

BISMARCE'S EARLY YOUTH.

Otto Edward Leopoid von Hismarck-Schoenhausen was born at Schoenhausen, let Rendul, in Prussian Saxony, April 1, 1815. A year after his birth his father moved to one of his estates near Stettin, in Pomerania, and it was there that the future stutesman received his first imfure stutesman received his first imfurence on his end of class in the future stutesman received his first imfurence on the conting school of six he matters of discipline, "a spuriture stutesman was the rule." At twelve he went to a gymnasium, where he fell under the influence on his methods of thought and life. History was his of thought and life. History was his favorite study, though he acquired at this time such thorough knowledge of the elements of English and Prench that he ever afterward used these languages with Dearly over them.

During this period, and especially in his yeactions, he devoted hismself to all kinds.

ease, and surprised both Napoleon III. and Lord Beaconsfield with his mastery over them.

During this period, and especially in his vacations, he devoted himself to all kinds of manly sports, and thus developed those remarkable physical powers for which he was afterwards so famous. In 1832, at the age of seventeen, he was entered as a student of law at the University of Goettingen. That he did not devote himself very assiduously to study may be inferred from the fact that in the course of three semesters he fought twenty-eight duels, in all of which he drew blood from his opponent, while in one only did he receive a scar, the one observable on his left check. In 1833 he went to the University of Greifswald, Pomerania, and subsequently to Berlin, where he graduated in due time.

But instead of entering upon the practice of law he returned to Pomerania and devoted himself to the care of his estates and the life of an energetic country Squire. It was not until 1847 that he was elected to the Frussian House of Burgerses, He remained a member till 1851, when he was chosen a representative of the German Diet. It was here that his remarkable public career began, for immediately after he appeared in the Detries of all the most important of his political doctrines.

ERINGING ABOUT REFORMS.

ERINGING ABOUT REFORMS.

At the beginning of the ninetcenth century there was about as little representative government in Germany as in Asia. The Napoleonic campaign, which shattered Frussia at Jena, however, led to many reforms under the inspiring leadership of von Ytein. Frederick William III. not only issued an ediet of emancipation, but a little later he also promulgated at the Congress of Vienna an ordinance promising his people a written constitution and a representative assembly. It was largely from the inspiration of these ediets that Germany aroused herself to throw off the Napoleonic yoke, But a

tion of 1818 took so strong a hold in Germany.

Though Bismarck entered the Prussian Parliament, or "Landtag," in 1847, it was not unti he became a member of the German Diet, in 1851, that he exerted strong influence. From the first, however, he not only opposed all revolutionary measures, but demanded that in the Diet Prussia should have the same rights as Austria. He remained at Frankfort, the seat of the Diet, until 1856, when he was sent as Minister to St. Petersburg. His diplomatic experience, begun in Russia, was continued in France, whither he was sent in 1862, in order that he might obtain an finelght into the politics tof the Tuileries. In the autumn of the same year he was recalled to take the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, and became President

was equal to the task of playing one or against another, and thus defeat

When it became apparent that the reign of William I. was near its end thus defeat when it became apparent that the reign of William I. was near its end the hopes of the Liberals were very much encouraged by the political attitude and sympathies of the Crown Prince Frederick. But the Prince, when he ascended to the throne, was too ill to urge his policy with success, and his death, which soon occurred, left the power of Bismarck apparently unshaken. The turmolls of Frederick's short reign, however, made a deep impression on the vigorous mind of the Chanceller, and when William II. succeeded his father it became apparent that the Emperor and the Chancellor were not in harmony, so the latter resigned March 18, 1899, and his place was taken by General von Caprivi. On his retirement Bismarck received many honors at the hands of the Emperor, among them the Dukedom of Lauenburg.

HIS LIFE AT HOME. In early life, in 1847, Bismarck married the daughter of the Nether-Pomeranian



of the Cabinet. A period of turbulent parliamentary disagreements ensued. The Government was unable to induce Parliament to make the needed appropriations for a reorganization of the army, whereupon Parliament was repeatedly dissolved, after being told that the King would be obliged to act without its sanction. In this way the reorganization of the army went on in spite of Parliament.

WAS EQUAL TO THE OCCASION.

The death of the King of Denmark soon

The war had carried Prussia to the very front of military nations, and Bismarek was universally recognized as the leading spirit in the movement. The result of the war was disastrous, however, to the friendly relations of France and Prussia. The French people saw the aggrandizement of their old foe with great alerm, and seized upon the first pretext for declaring war. The events of 1570-71 afforded Bismarck the opportunity he desired. The military prestige of France was humbled, if not broken; but, what to him was doubtless of far more consequence, the result intensified the national feeling among the Germans to such an extent that the new German empire was established, with the King of Prussia at its head. Bismarck himself was given the rank of Frince, and made Chancelior of the Empire. At his dictation France was obliged, at the treaty of Frankfort, May 10, 1871, to cede to Germany the greater part of Alsace-Lorraine and pay an indemnity of \$1,000,000,000. At the close of the war Bismarck entered upon what was in many respects the most remarkable part of bis career. Having accomplished the consolidation of the German States into a federal union, he saw that the welfare of the country demanded the development of German resources, which could only come from a long term of peace. He held that the sentiment of France was such that there could be no security against another outbreak of war except the general clief that an attack by France could have no chance of success. In order to secure this end he sought, on the one hand, by all the means at the command of diplomacy, to isolate France, and, on the other, to form strong alliances between Germany and other European powers. In both of these efforts he was signally successful. Walle he made it impossible for France to form any advantageous union, he succeeded in uniting Germany with Austria and Italy in the firm bond of a triple alliance. He also strengthened the German army so far as to make it obvious that even a hostile alliance between France and Russia would

landowner Heinrich von Puttkammer. The betrothal was at first opposed by her parents—especially by her mother—as his irregularity of habits did not seem to promise well for the future of a daughter of a pious house. "All right," wrote the wooer to his sister, Malvina von Arnim, when he at last obtained the consent of Herr and Frau von Puttkammer, a sentiment which has been most heartly endorsed by all whose good fortune it has been to enter the threshold of Bismarck's family life. The Princess was brought up in the fear of God, but was of a quick, lively disposition, endowed with a good share of mother wit, sensibility and good taste. She made her husband's home comfortable and intelligently shared his cares and hopes. To her children she was a true mother, forever looking after their interest and endeavoring to bring them up in that frugality and strict economy for

cares and hopes. To her children she was a true mother, forever looking after their interest and endeavoring to bring them up in that frugality and strete economy for which the German nation has been so widely known for many years.

Speaking of the economical views of Frau von Bismarck reminds me of a little incident which at the time made quite an impression on my mind. It happened during the latter part of the sixtles, when the Prince's two sons, Herbert and Wilhelm, were students at the University of Econ, where I was frequently thrown in contact with them. We were sitting together at the "Kneipe" (headquarters) of the Borussen, the foremost corps of the st. nits at Bonn, and of which both Bisman, as were members, when one of them took from his mother, who severely consured him for not sending home to be laundered the correct number of pieces of linen. Although about six hundred miles away from home, their mother still desired to retain control of their wearing apparel.

The Prince has three children, a daughter, Countess Marle, who married Count Rantzau, and the two sons mentioned above. Whilst Bismanck was Prussian envoy at Petersburg he assiduously superintended his-children's education. Every Saturday they came to him with their school books, and had to give an account of all they had learned during the past week. He then examined them, exhibiting a minute scholastic knowledge, from which their tutors derived many valuable hints as to the proper method of teaching.

teaching.

HIS FONDNESS FOR DUMB ANIMALS.

HIS FONDNESS FOR DUMB ANIMALS.

Bismarck is a great friend of nature's attractions, and is also characterized by a strong liking for dumb animals and plants, a passion for field sports and riding, a fondness for a country gentleman's life, far away from the turmoll, and a great partiality for agriculture and foreziry. When he lived in Kniephof his huge banish hound was renowned throughout the whole neighborhood as a "favored personage," and several young fox-cubs were attached to his household. These were succeeded in St. Petersburg by a couple of young bears, which he allowed to range about the apartments of the legation, like dogs, until, when they reached maturity, he presented them to the Zooloigcal Gardens at Frankfort and Cologne. At Varzin in 1877 a large Ulmer hound, given to him by Count Hohenstein, always slept in his room and accompanied him in all his walks and rides, until some skulking vagabond brutally slew the faithful, harmless creature, which Bismarck was wont to teed with his own hand.

From his earliest youth the Prince was an uncommonly good shot, an cager horseman and a sportsman no less assiduous than lucky. As a young man he became so expert with the pistol that he was wont to decapitate with a bullet duck after duck swimming in the Kniephof ponds. His rifle and fowling piece were equally fatal to all sorts of furred and feethered game. I well remember the time when "smarck was a regular and welcome guest at the 'big hunts (Treibjagden) given by a relative of mine on his estate near Stassfut. Saxeny, Being a small boy then, I was not allowed to handle a gun; but I took great price in foliowing wagon. Of all the huntsmen no one kept us as busy as Bismarck, who nearly always managed to kill the greatest number of game. Bismarck was taken up in carrying the killed hares to the following wagon. Of all the remotest idea of the coming development of the man of "blood and iron." Even his mother-in-law shared the general prejudice against the "Krautjunker," for when she was apprised of the fact

Bismarck's strength and skill as a swimmer are shown by the following incident. In 1842, then being a lieutenant of Landwehr, he was ordered out to exercise near Lippehne with the Stargard squadron of lancers. He was standing with some other officers upon the bridge that crosses the Lippehne lake, when his groom, Hildehrand, who was watering one of his horses, slipped from the saddle near where the gentlemen were posted, and vanished from sight. Bismarck at once threw away his sabre and plunged into the lake. He soon caught hold of his groom, who, however, clung to him so tightly, in fear of drowning, that, before he could shake him off, he was compelled to dive down again with him. Everybody present had given up master and man as lost, when Bismarck rose to the surface, dragging up the insensible groom with him, and swam to the bank, where Hildebrand presently came to himself again. The little town got inte a great state of excitement over this galant deed, which displayed such extraordinary HIS REPUTATION AS A GOOD SWIMMER.

of the Catholic subjects of the German Empire, in view of the position which he took in regard to the Jesuits and the Pope, but subsequent events have completely changed this public sentiment, and even Pope Leo XIII. must have been influenced in the same direction, for about eleven years ago he presented the Prince with the "Christus Order," this being the first time that a Protestant had ever been honored by the gift of that decoration. This presentation was the outcome of the valual le services which the Pope rendered as arbiter between Spain and Germany in the settlement of the question regarding the Carolina Islands.

C. WERNER. around which hovers so many memories has not only held a warm place in the hearts of the profession, but has also been the chief influence in making Rich-mond audiences critical, scrupulous and unprejudiced. EBECTED DURING THE WAR.

THE MAN OF BLO OD AND IRON.

Weighing Coin in the Bank of England,

The Richmond Theatre was erected in 1882 and 1883. In 1861 the old Marshall Theatre, which stood upon the same site, was burned. It is believed that the free was of incendiary origin, though no definite information has ever been obstance. Weighing Coin in the Bank of England.

All the sovereigns and half-sovereigns received here immediately undergo, in a large room adjoining, the ordeal of the weighters, or separators. These are small brass boxes, perhaps a cubic foot in size, with glass sides. In the centre of the brass top is a small round hole, a little larger than the sovereign, which is filled by the round plate of a delicate balance. Upon this balance the sovereigns or half-sovereigns, according to the machine, slide, one at a time, by their own weight from an inclined half-tube, in which they are placed by the handful, forming a long inclined cylinder of gold coins. As each coll weights the balance sinks far enough for a tiny steel finger, moving to the left, to tilt the coin off down a tube into a receptacle below. If the coin be light in weight, the balance sinks far enough for a tiny steel finger, moving to the left, to tilt the coin off down a tube into a receptacle below. If the coin be light in weight, the balance does not sink so far, and the coin is caught by a second finger, moving in the opposite direction, which tilts it into a receptacle on the right. These machines work automatically and perfectly, and save an amount of labor which can only be imagined, testing thirty million pieces per annum. The room contains sixteen of them, all working silently and regularly by a smoopheric engine power, under the care of a single employe. The light coins are immediately split in half and returned to the mint, while those of standard weight remain in circulation.—H. J. W. Dam, in McClure's Massaine for

The Marshall Theatre was also a famous play-house. It was erected away back in the early part of the century, not many years after the burning of the old theatre where Monumental church now stands. It served as a dramatic school for many years, and young actors underwent regular courses of training there. ing there.

ing there.

It was the custom many years prior to the breaking out of the war to have what was known as a stock company, which remained at the play-house throughout the season. They took the minor roles, and some of them even assumed leading parts in the cast. The star, upon arrival, dealt out the several parts with which the members of the company were expected to familiarize themselves in a day. They reported early at the theatre and rehearsed their parts nearly all day. The star and the manager instructed them, and when the curtain went up the prompters did the rest. These stock companies were changed nearly every year for new performers, though some of the actors were retained for several successive seasons. Frequently the poor actors were found sound asleep behind the scenery, with their manuscripts or pamphlets, as the case may have been, lying beside them. They worked and studied during the day, and played late at night, so that often they

THE HONORED OLD BUILDING TO BE USED AS A RINK.

The views of Bismarck in regard to religion and the kind of life a Christian should live are manifested in his numerous letters.

To his sister's husband, who was mourning the loss of a child, Bismarck wrote in 1881: "We are in God's powerful hand, without help or advice unless He will help us Himself, and we can do nothing but resign ourselves to His ordinances. He can take away from us all that He gave. Our grief would only the more bitter the more we let it degenerate into rebellious resistence. How all the cares and annoyances which are inseparable from our daily life disappear in the preserve of real sorrow; and I feel, like so many reproaches, the recollection of all the complaints and vain longings in which I have indulged, forgetting how many blessings God gives us and how many dangers surround without touching us." About the Actors and Plays That Have Been Seen In it.

Many a worshiper at the shrine of Thespis will heave a sigh of regret at the bare announcement that the Richmond Theatre, at the corner of Seventh and Broad streets, will probably be converted into a skating rink after Easter week. While this will be merely a temporary arrangement, to close with the coming summer, still, true lovers of dramatic art cannot but feel a pang that the boards which have borne the tread of such worldrenowned actors as Edwin Booth, Law-

decreased.

During Easter week the Theatre will be occupied by the Eiks for a bazaar, after which Manager Leath will, in all probability, erect a temporary floor for the roller skaters. Mr. Leath's lease conthe roller skaters. Mr. Leath's lease con-thues for two years more. He has been losing money on the contract for some time, and hopes to recover at least a portion of the amount by this means. If the rink is established it will be discon-tinued when the next theatrical season opens, and the building re-opened as a play-house. So much for the proposed skating rink. A PAMOUS PLAYHOUSE.

skating rink.

A PAMOUS PLAYHOUSE.

Certainly no play-house South of Mason and Dixon's line, and, in fact, few in the North, have been the scenes of more varied and notable events than the primitive-looking, solemnly quaint old structure which for years has been regarded as the centre of the city. It is a landmark in the history of Richmond; it has a history itself which reads like romance: it marks the era between the old and the new South, slavery and abolition, heroism and force. Built when the roar of cannon and the war-cry of soldiery were familiar to the southerner's ear, it may almost be called a relic of the great civil strife.

It has a history, did I say? There actors just beginning to launch out upon the stormy sea of the drama; young, ambitious, understudies longing and struggling for public recognition; faithful pupils and timid girls with perhaps a spark of genius either wept over a hopeless failure or made merry over a signal success. There actors were made; there actors "awoke and found themselves famous"; there actors were made; there actors "awoke and found themselves famous"; there actors were made their debut in the Richmond Theatre.

Nearly all the brightest gems in the histrionic firmament have been idolized or coldly received in the old play-house. Its interior has resounded with the plaudits of thousands. Several fortunes have been taken in at the box-office, and hundreds of dramatic crities have been developed within its walls. Tears and laughter, ovations and hisses, indifference and empty seats—all have been familiar scenes within the building. It has served as a school for actors and audience alike, and that famous play-house When Pastor Andre took the Prince to task for not attending church regularly he sent his spiritual adviser an expression of his faith in the following characteristic fashion: "Would to God that besides the sins of which the world knows me guilty I had not, others, for which I can only hope for pardon through my faith in the blood of Christ. As a statesman, I think I am too careful. I am even cowardly at times, and that because it is not easy to see through the entanglement placed before me the light that comes from a perfect confidence in God. He who reproaches me for being a statesman devoid of conscience, does me a wrong, and ought to begin by exposing his own conscience to a few trials in the same arena.

\* \* Believe me, we are all standing in need of induigence. I am among the crowd of sinners who fall short of the glory of God. But, with them, I do not despair that He will take away from me the humble faith with which I seek my way amid the doubts and dangers of my position."

In literature Bismarck's favorites are Goethe and Shakespeare among the classics, and Whittier and the Autocrat among the moderns. He has said himself that he does not understand anything about music, a statement which seems to be borne out by another, which says that his favorite instrument is a barrel organ. He speaks French, English and Russian fluently, and can write Italian.

For a long time Bismarck has been looked upon by many as a bitter enemy

served as a school for actors and au-

THE RICHMOND THEATRE

At times, however, the audience was called upon to witness scenes at once ludicrous and discouraging. As an example of what the star had to put up with, E. L. Davenport was once booked for a week's engagement at the present theatre. This was in 1872. Davenport had played here before, and was quite a favorite. He arrived one Monday morning bright and early, and at once went to the Theatre to arrange for the distribution and instruction of the parts. Eliza Wren, who is now playing with Robert Downing, was to be in the cast, and 'Squire William A. Graves, more familiarly known as 'Lonnie' Graves, of this city, who was at that time a rising young actor, and whose versatile talents have made him a familiar local character, whether in the capacity of a stage manager, a justice of the peace, or a baseball umpire, had a minor role to do. He was made up fairly well as a man servant, and his part consisted exclusively of entering at a certain time and announcing that the hero's carriage was in readiness.

"Wild Oats" was the bill, and an immense audience greeted the versatile actor. Everything ran along smoothly enough for a time, and suddenly the servant entered with a degree of self-importance, and pompously remarked: "My Lord, the carriage awaits" renowned actors as Edwin Booth, Lawrence Barrett, Joseph Jefferson, E. A.
Sothern, Sarah Bernhardt, Fanny Davenport, and a long line of other celebrities
too numerous to name here, is to be removed, and the interior converted into a
surface for frivolous youngsters to make
merry on wooden wheels.

For some time the old play-house has
been gradually losing prestige. This season there have been few attractions offered, and the Academy of Music, with
superior location, equipment and interior
arrangements, has been growing in popularity as the other house proportionately
decreased.

servant entered with a degree of selfimportance, and pompously remarked:
"My Lord, the carriage awaits"
Davenport cut his eye at the young
actor and blandly replied: "Oh, no,
Graves, you're twenty minutes ahead of
time with that carriage."
Shortly after this Davenport edged
near the exit and whispered aside:
"Now, Graves, you can come on with
that carriage." But Graves couldn't be
found. He was somewhere in the rear
of the stage conversing with members
of the troupe. Ten minutes later the
well-known actor stumbled over him
preparing to enter. "Where're you gopreparing to enter. "Where're you go-ing?" asked Davenport. "Coming on," replied the servant, naive-

"The devil you are!" exclaimed Davenport. "Why, hang it! the act's over."

During Davenport's engagement here the Theatre was packed to the limit for several nights successively. At his opening performance many had to be turned away. On this occasion his bill was "A New Way to Pay Old Debts." He closed the engagement with "Macbeth." The fourth night he played to a mere handful of people. That was the night that Jefferson appeared in Rip Van Winkle, at the old Assembly Hall. It was Jefferson's first appearance in Richmond after the war.

Davenport's followers nearly all left him for that night and greeted Jefferson, who scored a pronounced hit, as he has always done in this city. The following night Davenport appeared before a packed house again, and closed one of the most successful engagements ever played in this city as Macbeth, in which he was called before the curtain half a dozen times.

dozen times.

ITS EARLY HISTORY.

Several years before the burning of the old Marshall Theatre it was man-aged by Mrs. McGill, who afterwards became Mrs. W. T. Powell. She was sole proprietor, and under her manage-ment many of the best actors the coun-try afforded were seen from time to time at that play-house. After the fire she opened a theatre down on east Franklin street, just opposite where the time at that play-house. After the fire she opened a theatre down on east Franklin street, just opposite where the Kandolph Papti-Dax Factory now sands. The building was before that time used as a church. For nearly two years the house was conducted with wonderful success, and the management put aside rearly enough capital from the "Old Varieties," as it was called, to erect a new theatre.

were to complete the structure for \$40,000. Albert L. West was the architect. The work was pushed forward with wonderful rapidity and lovers of the drama in this city looked upon the fast-rising edifice with much pride. Between the time the contract was let until the completion of the building the materials and cost of work increased to such an extent that when the building was completed the total cost ran up to \$60,000.

A decorator from the North, named Rotz, did all the interior frescoing and ornamental painting. With the exception

ornamental painting. With the exception of some of the floor arrangements, several minor alterations on the stage, and a few improvements in the way of dec-orations, the building was turned over

to its owner in its present shape.
The Theatre was operated by Mrs.
Powell from the time it was built until 1889, since which time it has been managed by Mr. Leath. His unexpired lease aged by Mr. Leath. His unexpired sease will be out in about two years. Not long after the death of Mrs. Powell, which occurred in the summer of 1893, the build-ing was sold at auction to Mr. William H. Zimmermann, who then conducted the European restaurant adjoining. The the European restaurant adjoining. The figures were \$35,009. Colonel John Murphy, proprietor of, Murphy's European Hotel, put in an up-set hid for the property, which was transferred to him for \$38,500.

THE THEATRE OPENED.

An era in the history of the drama in this city was inaugurated when the Richmond neatre was thrown open to the public one beautiful night in February, 1863. For months lovers of the footlights public one beautiful night in February, 1863. For months lovers of the footlights had talked about the opening, and theatre goers generally were feverishly impatient for the notable event. The house was packed from pit to dome half an hour before the curtain went up, and the audience was a fashionable and representative one. Many soldiers from the war, then raging, were in Richmond on a furlough, and uniformed men, gaily-attired women, with not a few Confederate States officials, rendered the scene at once picturesque and striking. It was a memorable event which still lives fresh in the minds of a few of Richmond's citizens, now tottering with age.

"As You Like It" was the bill. Ida Vernon, who was a great favorite, and Dorsay Ogden did the leading roles. Their work went straight to the hearts of the spectators, and thundering applause greeted the actors time and again during the performance. They were repeatedly called before the curtain, and, with flushed cheeks and eyes glistening with that delight which a signal success arouses within an actor's heart, bowed their acknowledgements from beneath showers of flowers, amid outbursts of applause.

The receipts for hat performance exceeded \$2,000. A notable fact which is well worth mentioning here is the amount of receipts in Confederate money from the opening night in, February, 1965, till the close of the war, in April, 1806, more than \$1,000,000.

Perhaps the largest amount taken in

the opening night in, February, 1985, in the close of the war, in April, 1805, more than \$1.000,000.

Perhaps the largest amount taken in for one night's performance during the history of the Theatre was in the latter part of 1863. This was a testimonial to Ida Vernon, and "East Lynn" was the bill; Ida Vernon herself doing the role of Lady Isabel. Hundreds were turned away that night, and standing room was at a premium. The amount recorded was \$4.500,

SOLDIERS STAGE STRUCK.

During the war the old play-house was open nearly every night. At one peried in 1963 the bourds were occupied every week night for nearly six weeks. Such a thing as a dark house was exceedingly rare. The patronage was far more liberal in those days than at present, and Richmend was by large odds

seldom falled to make their presence known.

A somewhat notable fact was the soldiers' decided preference for tragedy. One would naturally suppose that their familiarity with death scenes grew monotonous. Not ro. Whenever a well-known tragedian was billed the soldiers occupied whole rows of seats. To comedy they appeared to be indifferent. Etwis Futest. Rosel, the great Italian tragedian; Edwin Booth, and John McCullough, whose fame extended over two continents; Edwin Adams, and other celebrated tragedians were all seen in Richmond during the war. They played, some of them, a week's engagement, with a change of bill every night. Packed houses, greeted them, and the old dome fairly reverberated with the wild plaudits of hundreds. Night after night people were turned away from the doors, and sometimes it was a case of first come, first served." Such masterpleces as "Hamlet," "Macbeth," "Otnello," "Richard III.," "King Lear," and a long list of attractions were produced from time to time, and seldom falled to score pronounced hits.

nounced hits.

Soon after the war Charlotte Cushman made a great hit before an immense audience. In 1870 Edwin Forrest played a week's engagement with William Harris as his leading man. Harris is now playing with Salvini. Their greatest success was the production of "Damon and Pythias," soon after the Knights of Pythias became a 27222 in this city. Nearly every Knight in Richmond was prezent, and Forrest was given an ovation. "Virginius," in the hands of the great, but ill-tempered tragedian, came in for general praise.

Chanfrau appeared in "Kit, the Arkansas Traveler" early in 1871. He played to crowded houses every night for three weeks, and scored a big hit.

Eugene Eberle and Billy Githert supported him as "Judge" and "Major." Frank Noys, as "David Crockett," also proved a drawing card. He was the leating support in one of the first stock companies organized to play at the Theatre. Eliza Wren, her sister, Elia Wren, Joe T, Fannin, Nellie Johnson, Alice Oats, who married a Richmond man, and W. H. Crane, who has since developed into a brilliant star, were all well-known supports to celebrated actors.

The elder Salvini, who played there

H. Crane, who has since developed into a brilliant star, were all well-known supports to celebrated actors.

The elder Salvini, who played there in 1876, the Chapman sisters, who, in 1869, played a three weeks' engagement with C. B. Bishop, and made a greathit in "Ixion"; E. A. Sothern, in "Lord Dunderry," and "Sam"; Lotta, in "Zip," and "Old Curiosity Shop"; Janascheck, in "Mary Stuart" and "Medea," who played a week in a \$10,000 engagement; Edwin Adams, in "Hamlet" and "Enoch Arden"; Laura Kean, in "Our American Cousins' Booth and Barrett, in "Julius Cacear," and Fanny Davenport, in "The American Girl" and "Pique," were some of the most notable dramatic events up to ten years ago.

A memorable event was Booth's engagement of one week in 1876. Despite the high prices standing room was at a premium.

Sarah Bernhar't proved a great attraction for two nights. She had at that time less notoriety and fewer trunks, though, perhaps, more beauty and better morals. She was enthusiastically received.

Of more recent years some of the celebrities which have delighted large audiences at the old play-house were: Sol Smith Russell, St wart Robson and William H. Crane, F chard Mansfield, Robert Mantell, Nat Goodwin, E. H. Sothern, John T. Raymoid, Kate Claxton, Modjeska, W. J. Floren e, Lilian Lewis, Adelaide Ne'lson, and Ci'ristina Nulson, The greatest week's engagement ever played in the theatre was that of Januscheck, and the most successful night's performance that of Booth and Carrier and Bernhardt, which was naps, the strongest combination ever en in this city.

Varieties," as it was called, to erect a new the stre.

In 1882 the contract was awarded to Joseph Hall and John F. Regnault. They were to complete the structure for \$40,000.

Albert L. West was the architect may be a company to make its appairance in Rich. During the old dramatic school in Richcompany to make its appearance in Rich-mond after the war was in 1863. Caro-line Richings was a prima donna. "Bo-hemian Girl," "Martha," and other popu-lar bills were produced before large au-diences. They played a wark's engage-ment. Miss Richings afforwards taught school in Richmond. She died in this city, and her remains were interred in Hollywood.

During the seventies the greatest opera-

During the seventies the greatest opera success was scored by the Clara Louise Kellogg Opera Company. They played grand opera, with a change of bill each night. Large audiences greeted them. About ninety people appeared on the stage.

DISCHARGE OF OPE WASHINGS. How the Law May Operate\_Republican

Nominations in Wythe. IVANHOE, VA., March 23,-Special .-The act of Congress forbidding the discharge of ore washings into any stream

charge of ore washings into any stream for which it had appropriated any money for the improvement of navigation of such streams promises to be more formiciable than at first supposed. Few, if any, people in this section understood that it had reference to New river, but on rully understanding the act it is found to apply to this section as well as to the lower waters of the river, for Congress has at various times appropriated money and it has been spent in opening the channel in New river to a point as far up the stream as the uppermost ore washing in the State.

the stream as the uppermost ore washing in the State.

There is no doubt but what the enforcement of the act would cause much injury to this section of the State, and it is hoped that a satisfactory arrangement may be effected, but in what way remains to be seen.

A few of the witnesses who went to Hilbville to attend the trial of A. B. Nichols, who a short time ago snot and killed William Pickett, a mechanical engineer of Wytheville, near this place, returned last night, a large number of the witnesses being held over until the end of the trial. No one can form any idea what the verdict will be.

An interesting revival is being conducted at the Methodist Episcopal church of this place, under the leadership of Rev. Mitchell, pastor, who is ably assisted by the Rev. Kelly, of Pulaski, Mich interest is manifested, and services will continue for several days longer.

The Republicans selected delegates last Saturday to represent them in a convention to be held at Wytheville for the pur-

The Republicans selected delegates last Saturday to represent them in a convention to be held at Wythevile for the purpose of nominating candidates for county and district offices. The party is expected to vote for its nominees, and lively times are expected, as each office in the county and the districts will be contended for by a candidate from both parties. The Republicans declare they can carry every office in the county.

Pamplin City It-ms.

PAMPLIN CITY, VA., March 23.—Special.—The farmers of this section are rushing their tobacco on the market. A few experts in the handling of the juley weed are even more than satisfied with their prices, but the multitude are complaming of unprecedented lowsprices.

Miss Beas's Thornton, who was distressingly burned on the 23d day of February, is still suffering from the effects of same. She is one of the most lovable, popular and accomplished young ladies of our village.

Mr. C. M. Knox, of Richmond, was in Pamplin City yesterday working in the interest of Owens, Minor & Co. We are always glad to see him.

Mr. Samuel Lacy was with us to-day as a colporteur for the State of Virginia in behalf of the Presbyterian church.



HERR AND FRAU VON BISMARCK AT HOME.